## **EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE**

## **Patent Abstracts of Japan**

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APPLICANT: RICOH CO LTD;

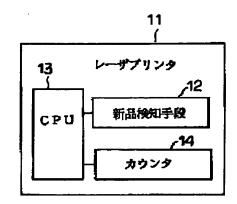
INVENTOR: KOBAYASHI KAZUNORI;

INT.CL.

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TITLE

**IMAGE FORMING DEVICE** 



ABSTRACT: PURPOSE: To provide an image forming device where a processing cartridge is easily recycled for use.

> CONSTITUTION: In a laser printer 11 having the processing cartridge replaced for every specified use frequency and attachable and detachable to a main body, a new article detecting means 12 detecting the processing cartridge as a new one and a counting means 14 counting the use frequency of the processing cartridge; even when the processing cartridge is a recycled one, it is constituted so as to detect the processing cartridge as a new one and clear the counting means 14. Even the processing cartridge where only toner is refilled is detected as a new one by the laser printer 11.

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